

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/710,785
Docket No.: 12432-US-PA

REMARKS**Response to 35 U.S.C. 121**

The Examiner issued a restriction requirement. According to the Office Action, there are patentably distinct inventions and species in the claimed invention and a restriction to one of these species of the elected invention in claims is required under 35 U.S.C. 121.

According to the species made by the Office Action, Applicants elect the Species (B) of Invention I, drawn to a method, corresponding to the non-vacuum environment is an environment having water or oxygen concentration about 0.1-100 ppm, specified in claims 1, 3, 4-6 and 8-10. Please cancel claims 11-32 and withdraw claims 2 and 7 without prejudice, disclaimer or waiver. Applicant also reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims in a divisional application if Applicants so choose.

For claims 1-10, claims 1, 4-6 and 9-10 are generic claims because these claims can read on each of the two species A and B. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all of the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

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CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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